

Message Text

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ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-02 EUR-12 ISO-00 CAB-05 CIAE-00 COME-00
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FM AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6084

UNCLAS OTTAWA 00370

E.O. 11652

TAGS: EAIR, CA

SUBJECT: CIVAIR - DOMESTIC ABC'S IN CANADA

REF: OTTAWA 10195, DEC. 7, 1977

1. REACTING TO UNPOPULAR DECISION OF THE AIR TRANSPORT COMMITTEE OF CANADIAN TRANSPORT COMMISSION (CTC), SEE REFTEL, WHICH PLACED SUCH SEVERE LIMITS ON TRIAL OF DOMESTIC ADVANCE BOOKING CHARTERS (ABC) THAT THEY WOULD HAVE HAD LITTLE CHANCE TO SUCCEED, TRANSPORT MINISTER LANG ANNOUNCED JANUARY 20 THAT THE CABINET HAD TOLD THE CTC TO ALLOW MORE THAN 50 INTER-REGIONAL ABC'S IN 1978.

2. IN OVERRULING CTC, THE CABINET DIRECTED THAT THE CTC ALSO PERMIT OTHER LICENSED CARRIERS, INCLUDING THE FIVE REGIONAL LINES AS WELL AS WARDAIR, TO APPLY FOR RIGHTS TO OPERATE THE ADDITIONAL DOMESTIC ABC'S.

3. WARDAIR AND THE REGIONAL CARRIERS HAVE SAID THEY ARE DELIGHTED WITH THE CABINET'S DECISION. HOWEVER, PACIFIC WESTERN AND WARDAIR REPRESENTATIVES HAVE POINTED OUT THAT IT IS UNLIKELY THEY WILL BE ABLE TO ENTER THE MARKET THIS YEAR WITH ANY SIGNIFICANT ABC PROGRAMS SINCE THEIR AIRCRAFT ARE ALREADY FULLY COMMITTED ON OTHER PROGRAMS. BOTH HAVE SAID THEY WILL PLAN DOMESTIC ABC PROGRAMS FOR 1979.

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DUEMLING

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